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Mynydd Isa Urban District Council

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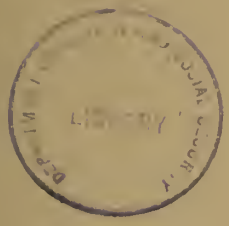

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1968

Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council

COUNCIL OFFICES,
PONTLLANFRAITH,
BLACKWOOD, MON.

The Annual Reports of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1968

MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1st January to 21st May, 1968

C O U N C I L L O R S

Chairman..... T.A.Broad, J.P.

Vice Chairman..... A.G.Mayo

W A R D S

Penmaen

T. J.Duckham
S.W.Lloyd
D.T.Morgan
H. Morgan
R.J.Lucas

Pontllanfraith

A.G.Mayo
W.R.J.Gardner
W.E.Jones
V.B.Gapper
J.E.Winfield
E.M.Hughes

Ynysddu

J. Adams
J.T.Jones
T.A.Broad
D.A.Prosser
A.B.Roberts
J.E.Moss
C.C.Thomas

MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

21st May to 31st December, 1968

C O U N C I L L O R S

Chairman..... A.G.Mayo, J.P.

Vice Chairman..... H. Morgan

W A R D S

Penmaen

T.J. Duckham
S.W.Lloyd
D.T.Morgan
H.Morgan
R.J.Lucas

Pontllanfraith

A.G.Mayo
W.J.O'Neill
W.E.Jones
V.B.Gapper
J.E.Winfield
E.M.Hughes

Ynysddu

J.Adams
J.E.Jones
T.A.Broad
D.A.Prosser
A.B.Roberts
J.E.Moss
C.C.Thomas

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Committee consists of 17 Members of the Council

Chairman - Councillor T. A. Broad

Day of Meeting - First Tuesday in each Month

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. K. E. Howells, M.B., M.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Shops Inspector - J. Lloyd Jones, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council.

REPORT

To the Chairman and Members
of the Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1968.

During the year there was a rise of 20 in the population of the Urban District. Although the crude Birth Rate for the year was higher than that for 1967 the adjusted birth rate was less. Both rates were lower than those for England and Wales, and for Monmouthshire. The percentage of illegitimate has again risen, perhaps a reflection of the present day permissive society. The Still Birth Rate has fallen compared to last year, but is still higher than that for the County as a whole, as in the Infant Mortality Rate. The Perinatel Mortality Rate has also fallen. It is pleasing to record that the Maternal Mortality is again zero.

Both the crude and adjusted Death Rates for the year were less than the previous year and were less than those for England and Wales, and for Monmouthshire. Heart Disease accounted for 37% of all deaths and in males 42% of deaths were attributed to this cause. Cancer deaths were the next largest group, accounting for 14% of all deaths, and 25% of male deaths. 35% of the deaths in males from cancer were due to cancer of the lung or bronchus. There is no doubt that the incidence of heart disease and of cancer of the lung is higher in the cigeratte smoker than in the non-smoker and one can only hope that the intensive anti smoking campaign will show signs of bearing fruit in future years.

Notifications of Tuberculosis fell to the very low level of one. The only other infectious diseases notified were Measles, Infective Hepatitis and Dysentry.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

K. E. HOWELLS
Medical Officer of Health

MYNYDDISLWYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Area of District	5,415 acres
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1968	£315,402
Product of 1d. Rate 1968	£1,254.14.3d.
Population (Estimated Mid 1967)	15,690
Population (Estimated Mid 1968)	15,710
Birth Rate per 1,000 population 1967 (Crude)	14.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 population 1967 (Adjusted)	14.7
Birth Rate per 1,000 population 1968 (Crude)	14.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 population 1968 (Adjusted)	13.0
Live Births for 1967	229
Live Births for 1968	232
Number of Deaths for 1967	163
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population for 1967 (Crude)	10.4
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population for 1967 (Adjusted) ..	13.4
Number of Deaths for 1968	157
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population for 1968(Crude)	10.0
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population for 1968 (Adjusted) ..	10.8
Infant Mortality Rate for 1967	17.0
Infant Mortality Rate for 1968	26.0

BIRTHS AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

Number of births registered locally belonging to the District ..	42
Number of births registered outside the District	190
Total number of births given in the Registrar General's Return	232
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (Crude) ..	14.8
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (Adjusted)	13.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	7.3
Number of still births	5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	21.0
Total live and still births	237
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	6
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	26.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	23.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	58.8
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	17.2
Early Neo-matal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live Births)	17.2
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	38.0
Number of deaths from pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0

Showing the Comparisons of the Vital Statistics of Mynyddislwyn Urban District, Monmouthshire County Council, and England and Wales for the year 1968

	Mynyddislwyn Urban District	England and Wales	Monmouthshire County Council
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	13.0	16.9	17.44
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	21.0	14.3	17.92
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	26.0	18.3	18.74
Total Death Rate per 1,000 of population (adjusted)	18.0	11.9	13.68

TABLE 1

Showing the number of births registered in the Mynyddislwyn Urban Area during 1968 according to sex, month, quarter of occurance, together with transferable births

Month	Male	Female	Total	Quarterly Births
January	3	1	4	
February	4	-	4	
March	4	3	7	15
April	2	-	2	
May	-	5	5	
June	2	1	3	10
July	2	5	7	
August	1	2	3	
September	2	1	3	13
October	1	2	3	
November	-	-	-	
December	-	-	-	3
Totals	21	20	41	41
Inward Transferable Births	87	104	191	-
Grand Total for 1968	108	124	232	-

TABLE 11

Showing the infant deaths (i.e. deaths in infants under 1 year of age) occurring during 1968, by cause and in age groups

Cause of Death	0 to 4 weeks	4 weeks to 1 year
Bronchopneumonia		2
Respiratory distress syndrome	2	-
Prematurity	1	-
Aspiration pneumonia	-	1
Renal Failure	1	-
TOTAL.....	4	3

SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes	Male 95	Female 62
Meningococcal Infection	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasm, etc	8	4
Mengingitis	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc	-	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	3	-
Hypertensive disease	2	1
Ischamic heart disease	33	11
Other forms of heart disease	7	5
Cerebrovascular disease	13	17
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	4
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	5	5
Bronchitis and emphysema	5	2
Asthma	1	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
Other diseases of digestive system	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Congenital anomalies	1	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc	2	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	1
All other accidents	2	2
Deaths of infants under one year of age	5	1
Legitimate	4	1
Illegitimate	1	-
Total Births	108	124
Legitimate	102	113
Illegitimate	6	11
Still Births	2	3
Legitimate	2	2
Illegitimate	-	1

T A B L E IV

Showing monthly notification of tuberculosis (all forms) for the year 1968

Month	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
January	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	-	-	-	-
March	-	-	-	-	-
April	1	-	-	-	1
May	-	-	-	-	-
June	-	-	-	-	-
July	-	-	-	-	-
August	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	-	-	-	1

TABLE V

Comparison of Annual Tuberculosis Statistics

	Yearly Notification of Tuberculosis				Total Yearly cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Deaths from Tuberculosis				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1959	14	4	-	1	19	-	1	-	-	1
1960	8	4	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-
1961	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
1962	6	2	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	2
1963	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1964	6	2	-	-	8	1	-	-	-	1
1965	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1966	3	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
1967	4	1	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
1968	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE VI

Analysis of Infectious Diseases in the District during 1968 showing age/sex distribution of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified in the District in 1968 also showing admission of same to hospital

Type of Disease	Under 1 year		1 year		2 years		3 years		4 years		5 - 7 years		8 - 10 years		11 - 13 years		14 - 18 years		19 - 25 years		26 - 35 years		36 - 45 years		All ages		TOTALS	Cases admitted to Hospital	
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f		m	f
Measles	4	1	8	8	6	5	5	6	7	5	15	12	2	3	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91		
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastro Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	9	-	-

IMMUNISATIONS

for the year ended 31st December, 1968

	Age at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B)			
	Under 1	1 to 3	4 - 16	TOTAL
A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Authority's area (including temporary residents) during the six months	2	67	18	86
B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection (i.e. subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age) during the year ended 31st December, 1968	-	152	168	320

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

1. Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated during period)					
Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 15	TOTAL
Number vaccinated	-	24	53	2	79
Number re-vaccinated	-	-	-	6	6
2. Number of cases specially reported during period (age groups as above)					
(a) Generalised	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Post vaccinal Encephalomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Death from complications of vaccination other than (a) or (b)	-	-	-	-	-

Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council

Public Health Inspector's

REPORT

for the year

1968

To the Chairman and Members of the
Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

F O O D S

MILK SUPPLY

25 samples of milk were taken by the County Authority for analysis.

Number of inspections of Dairy Premises and Vehicles 17.

ICE-CREAM

By far the most of the ice-cream sold in the area is manufactured and pre-packed outside the area. As seen below, of the 32 retailers in the area, only three of them produced their own ice-cream.

There are 32 retailers of ice-cream on the Register.

Number of premises registered during 1958	-	-
Number of premises registered	-	32
Number of registered persons producing	-	3
Number of inspectionf of premises and vehicles	-	50
Number of samples taken	-	9

MEAT INSPECTION

There is at present no slaughterhouse in the area. Nearly all the meat obtained in the area is purchased from slaughterhouses in Maesycwmmer, Newport and Abergavenny, and all those premises are maintained by an adequate inspection staff.

FOOD PREMISES

In connection with the inspection of food premises, the following is a summary of the visits made throughout the year.

Type of Premises		No. of Visits Made
Butchers' Shops	-	168
Greengrocers' Shops	-	113
Fishmongers' Shops	-	32
Premises registered for preparation of Food	-	106
Other premises where food is stored/and/or sold	-	145
Cafes and Canteens	-	42
Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream	-	56

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT - SAMPLING

My acknowledgement is due again to the Weights and Measures Department for the County, in supplying me with the following information of samples of food and drink taken for examination under the Food and Drugs Act in this area.

During the year 1968, 61 samples were taken, consisting of:-

25 Milk	2 Ice-Cream	26 Other Foods	8 Intoxicating Liquor

All but 5 of the above samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be genuine.

1. Complaint - Milk of Magnesia Tablets contained 2 Drinamyl Tablets

   Complainant purchased a full bottle of milk of magnesia tablets and on opening discovered 2 Drinamyl Tablets on top of the cotton wool. Because the bottle was unsealed, thus allowing access to the contents at all stages of distribution, legal proceedings were not advised.

2. Complaint - Bread Contained Dirty Oily Dough

   This matter was passed to the local authority where the bakery is situated for attention under the Hygiene Regulations.

3. Complaint - Milk Contained Hair-Grip

   A sample of school milk contained a hair grip. (Firm cautioned.)

4. Complaint - Ice Lolly Contained a Mould. (Firm Cautioned.)

5. Complaint - Bread Contained a Piece of Brown Paper. (Firm Cautioned.)

PARTICULARS OF ATTENDANCES AT THE COUNCIL'S SWIMMING BATHS AT PONTLLANFRAITH

	1965	1966	1967	1968
Bathers (adults)	1,290	1,786	1,671	1,786
Bathers (juvenile)	13,378	13,466	16,885	13,466
Spectators (adults)	790	889	1,044	889
Spectators (juvenile)	1,185	1,241	1,572	1,241

MORTUARY FACILITIES

The District is provided with a modern well equipped mortuary and its facilities are often used by neighbouring authorities who have no mortuary of their own.

During the year the number of post mortems carried out at these premises was 48.

POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

One such premises was established in the last month of the year under review. It produced undrawn poultry, mainly broilers, the only processing being slaughtering and defeathering. It operated for only a short time before closing down. It involved me in a total of 20 visits.

This type of business poses a variety of problems from a public health point of view. These spring from the following factors:-

1. There is a large volume of waste resulting from the processing, including blood, feathers, and viscera, and it is essential that frequent and regular collection of these wastes are made in order to avoid accummulations which would result in nuisances from smells, flies and rats.

2. Poultry can be a vehicle for the dissemination of salmonella organisms, particularly in view of the fact that there is a lot of handling of the birds after slaughter, so that scrupulous observance of the Food Hygiene Regulations is very important.

3. Because of the rapid throughput of so many carcases adequate post mortem inspection is difficult to achieve, and one has to reply largely on "spotters" employed by the proprietor to see that diseased birds do not get through the production line. Ideally, all birds should be inspected by local authority inspectors, but the cost of this would be very high.

4. In the case of plants producing undrawn poultry the problem of adequate post mortem inspection is greatly increased.

ADDENDUM

POULTRY INSPECTION

It was not known at the time that Welsh Board of Health Circular 1/69 (Wales) would require such statistics as the number of birds processed and the percentage of birds rejected as unfit during the year so that this information was not recorded.

HOUSING 1968

1. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

   Number of defective dwelling houses in which defects were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 40

Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (Slum Clearance)

1. Number of dwelling houses closed..... 21
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished..... 8
3. Number of families re-housed..... 4

Proceedings under the Public Health Act and Housing Act, 1967

1. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

   (a) By Owner..... 6

   (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... -

2. Number of unfit houses made fit after formal action under the Housing Act, 1957..... -

Progress of New Houses by the Local Authority and Private Enterprise

1. Number of dwellings completed by the Local Authority in 1968... 36
2. Number of dwellings completed by Private Enterprise in 1968.... 32

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1960

There is a total of 111 premises in the area to which the above Regulations, and in particular Regulations 16 & 19 apply. There have been some infringements of a relatively minor character which have been rectified without recourse to statutory action, but the main provisions have been complied with.

Exact classification of these premises is difficult because there is a growing trend for retailing establishments to deal with a wide range of commodities outside their predominant business. Butchers deal in greengorcery for instance, and grocery shops sell almost anything. Some public houses have a thriving trade in confectionery. However, the broad classification is as follows:-

Greengorcery & General Shops	50	Licenced Premises	29
Fried Fish Shops	6	Cafes and Canteens	14
Food Warehouses	1	Bake-houses	3
Butchers Shops	8		

RODENT CONTROL

For this work, one man is employed full time, and a part-time operator is employed for relief work on normal duties, and when baiting of the sewers is carried out.

LODGING HOUSE

I have reported in previous years that there was one lodging house in the area, occupied by ten lodgers, mostly elderly, and that these premises were below standard. It had been kept open largely on humanitarian grounds because of the difficulty of finding alternative accommodation for the residents. However, the problem has now been solved. The premises is now occupied by only two men who are there in the role of caretakers whilst the future use of the building is being considered.

WATER SUPPLIES

1. In general the water supplied by the Water Undertakers, Abertillery & District Water Board, is satisfactory as regards quality and quantity. There were no serious restrictions during the year.

2. Frequent bacteriological samples are taken by the Undertakers and reports to this Department indicate that the results of the analyses are satisfactory. Six samples of the treated water were taken by this Department for bacteriological examination and all the results were satisfactory.

3. There is no evidence that the water is plumbo-solvent.

4. The number of dwelling houses and the approximate number of the population supplied from the mains are as follows:-

   1. Direct to the houses - 4,568 houses, 15,700 population

   2. By means of standpipes - 2 houses, 6 people.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Urban Area is adequately served by sewerage, the controlling body being the Western Valleys (Mon) Sewerage Board. There is no sewage works in the area. The number of dwellings not connected to the sewer is comparatively small, approximately 50, and these consist of farms and cottages in isolated parts of the area. In these cases with the aid of Improvement Grants, there is a growing tendency for the more primitive type of disposal to be exchanged for properly designed and constructed septic tanks.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including) inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

	Number on the Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	2	-	-
2. Factories in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	33	16	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	37	18	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three of more, "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred BY H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

/cont.

/cont.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.....	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII of the Act

There are no outworkers operating in the area

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The following statistics are extracted from the Annual Report supplied by the Ministry of Labour:-

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of Premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of inspections during the year
Offices	-	12	6
Retail Shops	-	31	27
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	7	7
Fuel storage depots			

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	47
Retail Shops	86
Wholesale departments, warehouses	2
Catering establishments open to the public	12
Canteens	16
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	163
Total Males	51
Total Females	112

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE WHICH ARE NOT CLASSIFIED ELSEWHERE IN THE REPORT

Complaints

Total number investigated (all premises)	135

Drainage

Number of main or branch drains tested or inspected	36
Number of visits to work in progress	78

Dwelling Houses

Number of visits in connection with complaints	50
Re-visits	129
Investigation into living conditions	13

Miscellaneous

Visits not otherwise classified	64

In conclusion, I should like to thank all Officers of all Departments of the Council for their kind and willing co-operation during the year.

I am,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

J. LLOYD JONES

Public Health Inspector
and Shops Inspector